

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 03052 01 OF 02 160118Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /083 W
-----117287 160149Z /64

P 152142Z SEP 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5389
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3052

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, US, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CONTACT GROUP MEETING WITH NORDIC GROUP

1. SUMMARY: WESTERN FIVE CONTACT GROUP HAD CORDIAL MEETING
WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NORDIC GROUP AM SEPTEMBER 13.
NORDIC GROUP MEMBERS REQUESTED MEETING TO REAFFIRM THEIR
READINESS TO OFFER THEIR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE
EFFORT TO ACHIEVE AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03052 01 OF 02 160118Z

TO THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION. END SUMMARY.

2. CONTACT GROUP MET ON VERY SHORT NOTICE FOR
EXTREMELY CORDIAL MEETING AM SEPTEMBER 13 WITH REPRESENTATIVES
OF NORDIC GROUP. BECAUSE OF THE SHORT NOTICE,
THE FRENCH WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND. THE NORDIC GROUP WAS
REPRESENTED BY THE FINNISH AND SWEDISH PERM REPS AND

BY DEPUTY PERM REPS OF DENMARK, ICELAND, AND NORWAY. THE MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY THE NORDICS AS PART OF AN ONGOING EFFORT TO REAFFIRM TO THOSE PARTIES CONCERNED ABOUT THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION THEIR READINESS TO OFFER THEIR ASSISTANCE IN THE EFFORT TO ACHIEVE AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. THIS READINESS WAS AFFIRMED IN THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE MEETING OF THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS HELD IN HELSINKI SEPTEMBER 1 AND 2, 1977. THAT COMMUNIQUE STATED:

"THE MINISTERS EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE ACTIVITY NOW BEING CONDUCTED WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE QUESTION OF NAMIBIA WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF THE COUNTRY BECOMING INDEPENDENT IN 1978 IN CONFORMITY WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385. PARTICIPATION BY SWAPO IS CRUCIAL FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN NAMIBIA. ALSO IN THIS CONNECTION THE NORDIC COUNTRIES EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO OFFER THEIR SERVICES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN WITH A VIEW TO FACILITATING A PEACEFUL TRANSITION."

3. NORDICS PRESENTED CONTACT GROUP WITH WRITTEN TALKING POINTS WHICH FURTHER EXPANDED ON CONTENT OF ABOVE COMMUNIQUE. THESE TALKING POINTS INDICATED THE NORDIC GOVERNMENTS' HOPE THAT THE EFFORTS OF THE FIVE WOULD LEAD TO EARLY AND POSITIVE RESULTS AND FURTHER STATED: CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USUN N 03052 01 OF 02 160118Z

"AT THEIR MEETING IN HELSINKI THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS FURTHER DECIDED THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD MAKE A JOINT DIPLOMATIC APPROACH TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED ABOUT AND INVOLVED IN THE CONTACTS AND TALKS UNDERWAY ON THE FUTURE OF NAMIBIA IN ORDER TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT THE NORDIC GOVERNMENTS STAND READY TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO THESE ENDEAVOURS. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THIS APPROACH IS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE SHOULD SUCH ASSISTANCE BE CONSIDERED USEFUL EITHER NOW OR LATER E.G. IN THE CONTEXT OF ANY SETTLEMENT WHICH MIGHT EMERGE FROM THE EFFORTS PRESENTLY UNDERWAY."

THE NORDIC GROUP EMPHASIZED THAT THEIR INTENT WAS NOT TO INJECT THEMSELVES INTO THE TALKS BUT RATHER WAS SIMPLY TO EXTEND THEIR ASSISTANCE IF IT IS CONSIDERED BY OTHERS TO BE USEFUL.

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03052 02 OF 02 160134Z

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-----117477 160148Z /64

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

/AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY 3912

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 3052

4. RESPONDING ON BEHALF OF THE CONTACT GROUP, AMB. MCHENRY EXPRESSED FIVE'S APPRECIATION FOR THE NORDIC'S OFFER. HE STATED THAT, WHILE IT IS TOO EARLY TO PREDICT WHAT ASSISTANCE MY BE NECESSARY, IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO SAY THAT THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN PRESENCE ENVISIONED IN NAMIBIA IS A SUBSTANTIAL ONE AND THAT THE COST AND PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS WILL BE HIGH. MCHENRY ALSO ADDED THAT AT THE CRUCIAL STAGE IN THE CURRENT INITIATIVE THE NORDIC'S ASSISTANCE MIGHT WELL BE NEEDED IN
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03052 02 OF 02 160134Z

TRYING TO WRAP UP A SETTLEMENT PACKAGE.

5. THE NORDICS THEN INDICATED THAT THEY HAD ALREADY

SPOKEN WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM AND WITH THE AMBASSADORS OF THE FRONT-LINE STATES TO MAKE KNOWN THEIR READINESS TO HELP. IN THE NEAR FUTURE THEY WILL ALSO SPEAK WITH SWAPO'S UN REPRESENTATIVE AND, IN ADDITION, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NORDIC COUNTRIES HOPE TO MEET WITH THE SWAPO CENTRAL COMMITTEE. THEY ASSURED US THAT THEY WOULD EXPRESS TO SWAPO THEIR SUPPORT OF THE WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE.

6. WITH REGARD TO THE CURRENT INITIATIVE, THE NORDICS EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN THE FIVE'S TIMETABLE FOR FUTURE TALKS AND IN THE FINANCING OF A POSSIBLE UN PRESENCE. WE INDICATED THAT WE EXPECTED TO MEET WITH SWAPO SOON THEREAFTER. WHILE A GREAT DEAL HINGES ON THIS NEXT ROUND OF TALKS, WE ARE STILL HOPEFUL THAT A SETTLEMENT PACKAGE AND SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION, CAN BE OBTAINED BY THE END OF OCTOBER. WITH REGARD TO FINANCING, THE NORDICS EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE THAT ANY UN PRESENCE BE FINANCED THROUGH THE PRINCIPLE OF COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS STATES AND NOT THROUGH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. THEY ADDED THAT OF COURSE THE FORMER PRINCIPLE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

7. COMMENT: MEETING WITH NORDICS WAS MOST BENEFICIAL. THE NORDICS INDICATED QUITE CLEARLY THAT THEY ARE READY AND WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE MONEY AND PERSONNEL TO A UN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA AND THAT THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO CONTRIBUTE IN ANY OTHER WAY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA. END
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PAGE 03 USUN N 03052 02 OF 02 160134Z

COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING PROCEEDINGS, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN03052
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770335-1192
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770958/aaaabwtv.tel
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1253018
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: CONTACT GROUP MEETING WITH NORDIC GROUP
TAGS: PORG, US, SF, WA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/22ee3245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009